How the Web Works

In this lab, you'll be working with a partner to explore a little more about the internet, the web, requests, responses and more. You'll be reading and writing about concepts as well as practicing some of the commands that we saw during the lecture earlier.

Topic 1: The Internet and the World Wide Web

- What is the internet? (hint: here)
  A very, very big network that uses the Internet protocol suite
- What is the world wide web? (hint: here)
  A collection of webpages open to the public that is accessible through the Internet
- Partner One: read this page on how the internet works, Partner Two: read this page on how the world wide web works. When you're done reading, come back together and and answer the following questions
  - What are networks?
    groups or systems of interconnected computers
  - What are servers?
    computers that store webpages, sites, or apps for clients to download
  - What are routers?
    it makes sure that a message sent from a given computer arrives he right destination computer
  - What are packets?
    small chunks of data sent and recieved from websites, if some are dropped or corrupted its easy to replace
- Come up with a metaphor for the internet and the web, you can do a single one if you think of one that puts them together or two separate ones (feel free to use one you've heard today or read about if you can't think of a new one, but spend at least 10 minutes trying to think of something different before you resort to that)
  Its all like a huge complex Highway or Railway
- Draw out a diagram of the infrastructure of the internet and how a request and response travel using your metaphor (like the map and letters we saw during the lecture). Insert the drawing into this document (can be a picture of a physical drawing, a Google Drawing, a Figma drawing, etc)
  https://docs.google.com/drawings/d/1QagKk1VIFF-cts6L06ITu_4yLgoEyxH3-a0VI3OaW3A/edit?usp=sharing

Topic 2: IP Addresses and Domains

- What is the difference between an IP address and a domain name?
  An IP address is a set of numerical instructions, and the domain name is like a link to the IP address but does not contain actual information
- What's devmountain.com's IP address? (Hint: use 'ping' in the terminal)
  104.22.12.35

- Try to access devmountain.com by its IP address. It shouldn't work because we have our sites protected by a service called CloudFlare. Why might it be important to not let users access your site directly at the IP address?

  For security reasons, avoid DDoS attacks. Also speed up loading times.
- How do our browsers know the IP address of a website when we type in its domain name? (If you need a refresher, go read this comic linked in the handout from this lecture)

  It makes multiple stops to check if another user has visisted that domain nd finds out the IP address, then returns it to your browser.

Topic 3: How a web page loads into a browser

The steps of how a web page is requested and sent are in the table below. However, **they are out of order**. Unscramble them and explain your thinking/reasoning in the second two columns of the table.

Steps Scrambled	Steps in Correct Order	Why did you put this step in this position?
Example: Here is an example step	*Here is an example step*	*- I put this step first because ____* *- I put this step before/after ____ because ____*
Request reaches app server	Initial request (link clicked, URL visited)	This step is first because it starts with the request
HTML processing finishes	App code finishes execution	this is how the whole process starts
App code finishes execution	Request reaches app server	This is when the server sees the request and knows what to do
Initial request (link clicked, URL visited)	Browser receives HTML, begins processing	the code is recieved and starts being processed and read
Page rendered in browser	HTML processing finishes	html is read and ready to render
Browser receives HTML, begins processing	Page rendered in browser	The webpage is loaded and ready to use

Topic 4: Requests and Responses

Setup

- Download the folder for this exercise from Frodo.
- Make sure you unzip it.
- Open it in VS Code
- Run `npm i` in the terminal (make sure you're in the web-works folder you just downloaded).
  - You'll know it was successful if you see a node_modules folder in the web-works folder.
- Run `node server.js` in the terminal (also in the web-works folder) and you should see a log to the terminal saying 'serving up port 4500'
- You'll be using this file to figure out what will happen when you make requests to this server, so read it over to see what's going on. We'll be getting into the two GET functions and the POST function.

Part A: GET /

- You'll start by looking at the function that runs when we make a get request to /, which looks like this: http://localhost:4500 or http://localhost:4500/
- You'll use the curl command to make a request and read the response in your terminal
- Predict what you'll see as the body of the response:
  information about the content, date that the server started, etc
- Predict what the content-type of the response will be:
  html
- Open a terminal window and run `curl -i http:localhost:4500`
- Were you correct about the body? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
  Yes I remembered It from the demo
- Were you correct about the content-type of the response? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
  Yes/No I forgot the "text" part but I remembered html

Part B: GET /entries

- Now look at the next function, the one that runs on get requests to /entries.
- You'll use the curl command again. This time, you'll need to figure out how to modify it to get the response that you need.
- Predict what you'll see as the body of the response:
  same thing as before, info about that page
- Predict what the content-type of the response will be:
  text/html
- In your terminal, run a curl command to get request this server for /entries
- Were you correct about the body? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
  yes I figured it would be similar to part A
- Were you correct about the content-type of the response? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
  No, the content type was "application/json" , I think thats becuase it pulled the data from a JavaScript file.

Part C: POST /entry

- Last, read over the function that runs a post request.
- At a base level, what is this function doing? (There are four parts to this)
  setting up a post for data to be recieved, then identifying what data the site is requesting, then it pushes the new data onto the the entries array, then it respondes by showing you the entries page with the new entry
- To get this function to work, we need to send a body object with our request. Looking at the function in server.js, what properties do you know you'll need to include on that body object? And what data types will they be (hint: look at the objects in the entries array)?

- Plan the object that you'll send with your request. Remember that it needs to be written as a JSON object inside strings. JSON objects properties/keys and values need to be in **double quotes** and separated by commas.
- What URL will you be making this request to?
  localhost:4500/entry
- Predict what you'll see as the body of the response:
  again, the same as before, a bunch of info
- Predict what the content-type of the response will be:
  application/json
- In your terminal, enter the curl command to make this request. It should look something like the example below, with the information you decided on in steps 3 and 4 instead of the ALL CAPS WORDS.
  - curl -i -X POST -H 'Content-type: application/json' -d JSONOBJECT URL
- Were you correct about the body? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
  yes, I made my prediction based on part A and B
- Were you correct about the content-type of the response? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
  yes, I made my prediction because we set it to application/json when we posted

Submission

- Save this document as a PDF
- Go to Github and create a new repository. (Click the little + in the upper right hand corner.)
- Name your repository "web-works" (or something like that).
- Click "uploading an existing file" under the "Quick setup heading".
- Choose your web works PDF document to upload.
- Add "commit message" under the heading "Commit changes". A good commit message would be something like "Adding web works problems."
- Click commit changes.

Further Study: More curl

Visit this link and do the exercises using the website provided. Keep track of the commands you used in this document. (Don't forget to resubmit to GitHub when you complete this section)